



Yurok Today

The Voice of the Yurok People

YTEP remediates river-side property

Yurok Environmental Prog. collaborates with agencies on river bar project

See story on page 14





JANUARY 2019 PUBLIC NOTICES



NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Austin Pergish Emery Moore has filed a case CV19-001, at the Yurok Tribal Court to change the present legal name of Petitioner, Austin Pergish Emery Moore to the name Austin Pergish Emery Mitchell. The hearing will be held at The Yurok Justice Center 230, Klamath Blvd., Klamath, CA 95548 on: April 4, 2019 at 10:00 AM. **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that any person having objection to the changing of Petitioner's name as aforesaid shall file written objection with the above-entitled Court within ten (10) days after the last date of the last publication of this Notice.

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that MARGARET ELOISE ROBBINS has filed a Petition with the Yurok Tribal Court to change the present legal name of Petitioner, DELEYANA ROSEMARIE AGUILERA to the name ROSE MARIE ROBBINS. The hearing will be held at The Yurok Justice Center 230 Klamath Blvd, Klamath, CA 95548 on DECEMBER 12, 2018 at 10:30 AM. **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that any person having objection to the changing of Petitioner's name as aforesaid shall file written objection with the above-entitled Court within ten (10) days after the last date of the last publication of this Notice.



Here are photos from the installation of the Yurok Tribe's new Vice Chairman Frankie Myers (right) and Orick District Representative Sherri Provolt (left).

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On The Cover

Yurok citizen Ki-ee Romannose-Jones removes trash from The Slab.

Tribal Council welcomes new staff

Tribe recently fills multiple important management positions

The Yurok Tribal Council recently appointed Javier Kinney as the Tribe's new Executive Director. Kinney, a Yurok citizen, has on his resume an expansive list of professional accomplishments, credentials and relevant experience.

The longtime Director of the Yurok Office of Self Governance has a Bachelor of Arts Degrees in History and Native American Studies from the University of California, Davis, a Master of Arts degree in Law & Diplomacy, specializing in Development Economics and International Law from Tufts University-Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, and a Juris Doctorate from Suffolk Law School. The new Executive Director has extensive experience advising Tribal governments on a wide range of substantive topics. His primary areas of expertise include: strategic actions on climate change, natural resource management, mediation, negotiations, public policy, economic development, youth empowerment, land acquisition, tribal governance, philanthropic partnerships, protection of tribal cultural resources and water policy.

Kinney's visionary work and interests have provided him the opportunity to travel with indigenous delegations and other



organizations to the following countries: Venezuela, Colombia, Bolivia, Mexico, Jamaica, Hungary, Canada, Brazil, Norway and Germany. His commitment as a change-maker to global consciousness motivate him to create opportunities of collaboration and partnerships with indigenous communities at the domestic and global levels. As a graduate student at the Fletcher School, Kinney was selected as a delegate to the inaugural International Achievement Summit held in Budapest, Hungary. Most recently, he has presented at the Nexus Global Youth Summit held at the United Nations Headquarters, and represented the Yurok Tribe as a tribal representative to the United Nations Council of Parties 23 Climate Change Conference in Bonn, Germany.

This past spring he traveled to Macapa, Brazil, Oslo, Norway and Acre, Brazil on diplomatic missions regarding climate change and resiliency initiatives related to the Tribe's acclaimed natural resources management practices.

Kinney currently serves on the Yurok Justice Advisory Board. He is also an advisor to the Yurok Tribe's Community Development Financial Institution, as well as the Yurok Tribe's non-profit organization, Kee-Cha E Nar. ✨

The Yurok Tribal Council recently appointed Rosie Clayburn as the new Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer.

"Ms. Clayburn comes with a vast knowledge of cultural resources and experience in the field of heritage preservation specific to Yurok People," said Joseph L. James, the Chairman of the Yurok Tribe.

The Yurok Tribe's esteemed Culture Committee strongly recommended Clayburn, a lifelong ceremonial practitioner, for the position. The Yurok citizen previously served for six years as the Tribe's Cultural Division Manager. She holds a Masters in Museology from the University of Washington and a Bachelors in Anthropology, with an Archeology and Culture Resource Management Concentration, from the University of Oregon.

"I am very excited to take on this new role," Clayburn said. "I feel a deep responsibility to protect our cultural resources and preserve our traditional lifeway."

Clayburn descends from the village of Turip along the Klamath River. Her Parents are Barbara McQuillen and Raymond Clayburn. Her Grandparents are aawok Ida McQuillen, aawok James McQuillen, aawok Louis Clayburn and aawok Lillian Mae Clayburn.

As the Cultural Division Manager, Clayburn led the Tribe's largest-ever



return of privately owned ceremonial items — known as the Warburg Collections Purchase. In 2017, she and her hand-picked staff catalogued and brought back to Yurok headquarters hundreds of pieces of intricately made regalia, including numerous, pristine basket caps. She also assisted in the three history-making repatriations from the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. In three separate events, which took place in 2010, 2014, and 2015, the Tribe recovered more than 300 sacred objects from the Smithsonian. Clayburn was also put in charge of caring for the invaluable, cultural objects. In addition to contributing to these monumental endeavors, the former Cultural Division Manager, working in conjunction with the Tribal Council, former THPO and current Vice Chairman Frankie Myers, and decedents of the village successfully advocated for the relocation of the Trinidad Memorial Lighthouse. Clayburn worked on shaping the Tribe's opposition to the Jordan Cove

Terminal/Pacific Connector Pipeline, too. The multitalented Yurok woman is also a key member on a Tribal team that is vetting the plans for the 2022 removal of the telecommunications towers sitting atop Red Mountain as well as the restoration of this sacred site. Participating in these projects will serve Clayburn well in her new position as the Tribal

Heritage Preservation Officer.

The THPO's numerous duties largely revolve around the advancement of tribal culture and the protection of cultural properties wherever they exist.

The THPO officer occupies an official oversight role regarding all of the Tribe's infrastructure-building projects. Pursuant to the 2009 Cultural Protection Ordinance, the THPO officer has signatory authority over all ground disturbing activities on the reservation, such as road building and new construction. Additionally, the National Historic Preservation Act mandates that federal entities, such as Redwood National Park, consult with the Yurok THPO on projects that have the

potential to impact historic properties. When earth moving operations happen on state lands, the Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer collaborates with the State Historic Preservation Officer to determine how best to protect cultural resources. Within Yurok Ancestral territory and outside of the national park, the THPO has the ability to provide recommendations on similar undertakings.

The enormous amount of relevant experience that Clayburn brings to the position will greatly benefit the Tribe. Her first day as the Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer was on January 19th 2019.

"I hit the ground running," Clayburn concluded. ✨

On Yurok citizen Greg O'Rourke first day as the Chief of the Yurok Public Safety Department, his career as a peace officer will complete a full circle.

Since 2000, when his law enforcement path began as the Yurok Tribe's first police officer recruit, the former Corporal with Humboldt County Sheriff's Office has been acquiring a broad set of pertinent skills to one day take back to the reservation. Starting on March 1, 2019, his first day as Public Safety's Chief, O'Rourke will get to employ these best policing practices to serve his people.

"For me, becoming Chief of Public Safety has always been the end goal. This is where I always wanted to be," O'Rourke said. "One of the reasons why I left was to get experience, to learn the professionalism of the career and make the relevant contacts to bring back to my community. In a way this is my homecoming."

O'Rourke, an exemplary officer with the highest professional standards, brings to the Tribal agency a unique blend of abundant law enforcement experience, integrity and firsthand knowledge about Tribal culture. Prior to accepting the new position, O'Rourke spent 12 years with the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, where he served as a field training officer, defensive tactic instructor and patrol deputy, as well as in many other important roles. During that time period, he also developed longstanding, working relationships with the Humboldt and Del Norte County Sheriff's Offices, two organizations that often collaborate with Public Safety.

In addition to his extensive law enforcement credentials, the new Public Safety Chief has a comprehensive understanding of the Tribe's cultural values. It is crucial to him that the services provided by his department are rooted in these traditional principles.

"I believe that law enforcement is a collaborative partnership with and a reflection of its community," said O'Rourke, who descends from the villages of Morek, Notchko and Kepel. "One of the benefits that I can bring is a balance between police culture and our traditional



(Center) Yurok citizen, Greg O'Rourke, the new Yurok Public Safety Chief, and Yurok Chairman Joseph L. James did interviews with CNN's Freedom Project to raise national awareness about human trafficking in Humboldt County and on the Yurok Reservation.

culture. I grew up on the river. My family is a traditional family. We cherish our ceremonies and culture."

In general, O'Rourke aims to model Public Safety's role after that of the village protector, an archetype that maintained balance and harmony within Yurok territory for untold millennia.

"Traditionally, we didn't have law enforcement. We had a village protector, who put the wellbeing of others above all else. That's the direction I want to take Public Safety," O'Rourke said.

Beginning on his first day, O'Rourke will have an open door policy for anyone interested in learning about the department, its actions and its objectives. This built-in transparency measure is meant to foster a positive relationship between the department and residents.

"For me, becoming Chief of Public Safety has always been the end goal. This is where I always wanted to be."

Yurok Public Safety Chief Greg O'Rourke

“In today’s law enforcement culture, we need to educate our community about what they can expect procedurally from law enforcement. I’m happy to explain to anyone the reasoning behind what we do,” he said.

Even though he officially commences work on March 1, O’Rourke has already hit the ground running. He is in the process of establishing his command staff, and is recruiting individuals to send to the academy.

“I think it’s important to have a well-defined chain of command and culture before we bring new officers on because that’s what they need

the most. They need structure,” O’Rourke said. “I would love to see Native and Yurok Tribal citizens enter the academy.”

During his tenure with the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office, O’Rourke kept in constant contact with the Yurok Tribal government, which resulted in the resolution of law enforcement issues on the reservation. Most notably, in 2017, he worked with CNN’s Freedom Project to raise national awareness about human trafficking in Humboldt County and on the Yurok Reservation. ✨

Amanda C. Ammon-Clark is a Yurok Tribal citizen, United States Army Combat Veteran and serves as the Assistant Director for the Yurok Tribe Office of Self Governance. She has attained an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Information Technology, specializing in Computer Networking, from ITT Technical Institute, Pennsylvania. She graduated Army Warrior Leadership training in Fort Lewis, Washington.

Clark was President of the U.S. Army 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) Better Opportunities for Single Soldier (BOSS) program which supports the chain of command by identifying quality of life issues and concerns by providing recommendations of improvement.

Ammon-Clark was awarded four Army Accommodation Awards, and 2 Army Achievement Medals during her 6 years of service, 2 of which were



deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

She continued her quality of life improvement work overseas starting in 2004. While deployed for OIF II, she implemented and oversaw Anaconda Armed Forces, a Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) program with a council of 20-plus service members working with government and federal contractors to identify quality of life issues and concerns while in combat.

Ammon-Clark was also CEO and IT technician for an Information Technology (IT) company, Unlimited Consulting Technology, LLC, providing computer hardware, software and network infrastructure support for local, government and individual entities. ✨

The Yurok Tribe is delighted to announce that Terri Colton is the new Executive Director for the Yurok Economic Development Corporation.

“I am excited and honored to take on this new role,” Colton said. “I look forward to the continued success of existing Tribal businesses and the establishment of new job-creating endeavors.”

Colton, formerly the YEDC’s long-serving Assistant Director, brings to the position a wealth of business and event organizing experience. Prior to joining the Economic Development Corporation in 2011, she worked as an accountant for two years in the Yurok Tribe’s Fiscal Office. Before the accounting job, she was the owner/manager of a successful hotel and held a management position at a restaurant. The hardworking administrator was also the Finance Project and Fundraiser Manager for the Del Norte Senior Center Building Project. The Del Norte Senior Center occupies one of the most beautiful buildings in all of Crescent City and provides an array of much-needed



services to the elderly.

For nine years, the Crescent City/Del Norte Chamber of Commerce elected Colton as the Board President, Vice President and Treasurer. Previously, she has also served as the President of the Hotel/Motel Association and as a Board Member for the Del Norte Senior Center. Colton is a consummate volunteer and contributes much to the betterment of the community.

For more than 30 years, she has run the renowned Jaycees Basketball Tournament, which draws thousands of people to the rural area in the wintertime when tourism is otherwise nonexistent. She coached the Del Norte High School Drill Team for 30 years. Colton has also been the lead organizer for the local 4th of July Deck Party, Crab Races and Sea Cruise, the three biggest events in Del Norte County in terms of attendance and dollars brought into the community. ✨

Yurok Education Dept. secures major funding

New programs aim to ensure that Native students are career and college-ready

To make certain that Native American youth are career and college ready, the Yurok Education Department is leading a large-scale, collaborative program, which aims to assist local students before, during and after high school.

The Yurok Tribe's Wild Rivers Indian Career Pathways Program will serve nearly 800 Yurok, Hupa and Wiyot students enrolled in grades 6 to 12th at the following educational institutions: four Humboldt County high schools, four continuation high schools, one charter high school, five middle schools and 12 K-8 schools. The Yurok Education Department and its partners secured \$3.6 million from the US Office of Education to fund the new program.

"We are poised to positively influence the lives of our youth, during one of the most critical phases in their development," said Jim McQuillen, the Yurok Education Department's Director. "Whether it's going to a university or a technical school, we are working to put our students in a position to have ample, gratifying options by the time they graduate high school."

The Wild Rivers Indian Career Pathways Program partners include: Hoopa Valley Tribe, Bear River Band of the Wiyot Tribe, Northern California Indian Development Council, College of the Redwoods, HSU, the Klamath Trinity Joint Unified School District, Northern Humboldt School District and Eureka City Schools. Through the partnership with College of the Redwoods, students will have an opportunity to earn college credits as part of dual enrollment classes offered at the high schools.

The grant is for four years and contains a provision to continue the program's work after its conclusion.

The Career Pathways Program aims to achieve the following by 2022:

- All 8th grades students will successfully transition to high school
- Increase high school graduation rates from 82.4% to 90%
- Increase the number of college-ready Native American students
- 50 percent of Native American students will earn at least nine dual enrollment units or complete at least one 100-hour internship
- The development of a plan to sustain the program following the grant's conclusion

To accomplish these objectives, 7.5 new staff will be hired to work with Native youth in Humboldt County schools. The hiring process will include general tribal preference. The program will also offer several, meaningful internship opportunities for high school and college-age students. The staff will be trained in how to help students and families select and apply for college/post-secondary programs. They will also work directly with college-bound students as well as students pursuing a technical career and training.

The Yurok Education Dept. and partners will work with the schools and the California Indian History Curriculum Coalition (CIHCC) to develop and



review a curriculum that integrates the American Indian experience across the board. Teachers will also participate in trauma informed instruction training for the purpose of helping children develop resilience, and improve their ability to overcome adversity.

The Wild Rivers Indian Career Pathways Program will develop three, broad educational corridors. The first pathway seeks to prepare students to become teachers at any level, ranging from kindergarten to college. The second pathway is for students interested in natural resources careers, including: biology, environmental science, forestry, fisheries, or river hydrology. The third will focus on business careers, such as small business development, accounting and marketing.

"Our primary goal is to give our students the support they need to pursue meaningful, well-paying careers," McQuillen said.

Over the next four years, students and their parents will also see the Career Pathways Program facilitate the following:

- Development and review of student post-secondary education plans
- Transition support for Grade 8 and Grade 12 students
- Trauma Informed training for teachers
- School choice and scholarship training for families
- Support from DNCOE and District Staff
- College visits
- Job shadows and field trips
- School visits by elders, artists, tribal staff, entrepreneurs
- Summer activities

STORY CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

Education Dept. partners on equally substantial plan to assist students in Del Norte County too

The Yurok Education Department is a major partner on a new \$3.3 million, cooperative effort to help young Native American students, living in Del Norte County, become college and career-ready.

The Education Department is the primary contractor for the new Del Norte County Office of Education's Redwood Coast Indian Career Pathways Program, which will serve 700 Yurok, Tolowa Dee-ne' Nation and Resighini Rancheria students in grades 6-12.

"The Pathways Program will enable us to assist our students as they grow into young adults," said Jim McQuillen, the Yurok Tribe's Education Director. "We will be empowering our students in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties to achieve the positive future they deserve."

The US Department of Education grant-funded program intends to accomplish the following goals by 2022:

- All 8th grades students will successfully transition to high school
- Increase high school graduation rates from 82.4% to 90%
- Increase the number of college-ready Native American students
- 50 percent of Native American students will earn at least nine dual enrollment units or complete at least one 100-hour internship
- The development of a plan to sustain the program following the grant's conclusion

Obtaining these objectives will involve the hire of 6 new school district staff and 1.5 new Yurok Tribe employees. General Native American preference will be applied to the hiring of these employees. The staff will be trained to help students and families select and apply for college/post-secondary programs. Each will be tasked with working directly with college-bound students as well as students interested in technical training.

In addition to the Yurok Education Department, the other Redwood Coast Indian Career Pathways Program partners include: the Tolowa Dee-ne' Nation, Resighini Rancheria, Del Norte Office of Education and College of the Redwoods. Through the partnership with College of the Redwoods, students will be able to earn college credits as part of dual enrollment classes offered at the high schools.

The Redwood Coast Indian Career Pathways Program will put an emphasis on three, general educational corridors. The first pathway will furnish students with the education necessary to become teachers, whether it's in a kindergarten or a college classroom. The second pathway is for students attracted to natural resources fields, including: biology, environmental science, forestry, fisheries, or river hydrology. The third will focus on business careers, such as small business development, accounting and marketing.

"We want our children to have as many career options as possible," McQuillen said. "The pathways program will prepare our students to

pursue an educational path, which will lead to any number of satisfying and well-paying employment opportunities."

The Yurok and Tolowa Education Departments, Del Norte County Office of Education, and other partners will seek direction from the California Indian History Curriculum Coalition (CIHCC) on the development of a curriculum that integrates Tribal experiences from the past to the present. Teachers will also undergo trauma informed instruction training, which will be employed to help children develop resilience and enhance their ability to overcome adversity.

"This new curriculum will reflect the richness of our culture and heritage," McQuillen said. "It will also train teachers to better serve children who have survived traumatic events."

Over the next four years, students and their parents can also expect the following from the Career Pathways Program:

- Development and review of student post-secondary education plans
- Transition support for Grade 8 and Grade 12 students
- Trauma Informed training at participating schools
- School choice and scholarship training for families
- Support from DNCOE and District Staff
- College visits
- Job shadows and field trips
- School visits by elders, artists, tribal staff, entrepreneurs
- Summer activities ✨

Yurok Economic Development Corporation
COMING SOON:
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
IN SCREEN PRINTING

If you are a Tribal member with screen printing and design experience, or you are interested in learning about the screen printing business, please send your contact information and area of interest to YEDC.

Inquiries can be sent to:
PO Box 1043, Klamath, CA 95548
Or
Email to Sara Barbour: sbarbour@yuroktribe.nsn.us
(707)482-0657

Yurok studies in Washington DC, at sea

Yurok citizen Brook Thompson was inspired to participate in the prestigious Native American Leadership Program in Washington DC because she wanted to acquire the skills required to affect significant political change. She was also one of two students selected for the Milanovich Fellowship, which is sponsored by the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indian and allowed her to spend an extra week in DC to meet with people of interest in politics.

“The program offered an opportunity to learn how things really work in Washington DC,” Thompson said.

Thompson, a Gates Millennium Scholar and Portland State University Honors College undergrad, applied for a position within the competitive program after a life-altering event in North Dakota. In the summer of 2017, Thompson joined the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's protracted fight to stop the Dakota Access Pipeline. She was stunned to see law enforcement agencies employing violence in an attempt to suppress opposition to the project, which precipitated the destruction of prolific sacred sites. As she reflected on her time in Standing Rock, two questions entered Thompson's mind. Could a political shift in Washington DC prevent this type of horrendous atrocity and if so, she wondered, what skills would she need to meaningfully influence this transformation?

“I applied for the Native American Leadership Program because I wanted to see the other side of the direct action at Standing Rock,” Thompson said. “I wanted to see how a push could be made from the other side, the political side, to stop the kinds of environmental and cultural injustices that I witnessed in North Dakota and back home on the Klamath River.”

During the semester, Thompson obtained an insider's perspective on the inner workings of the US Congress as well as university credits for courses on politics. For four months, she spent her days working in the office of the Senate Committee of Indian Affairs under US Senator Tom Udall from New Mexico. Her nights were spent taking classes at the George Washington University, where she studied political science. At her job in the committee office, she gained real world experience in many facets of governance, ranging from researching and reporting on issues in Indian Country to staffing Senate Committee hearings.

“I was able to make relationships with Congress people and see how projects are pushed through from start to finish,” Thompson explained

The ample duration of time enabled the incredibly intelligent Yurok woman to develop a rapport with Senator Udall's staff, who trusted her with increasingly more complex and consequential tasks. Her work included reviewing policy on the US Census, the Farm Bill, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians trust land, the Opioid Crisis, and Water Issues.

Through her participation in the Native American Political



Yurok scholar Brook Thompson spent one semester in Washington DC and another on boat travelling around the world.

Leadership Program, Thompson also got an unfiltered glimpse into the daily lives of congressional representatives. Behind closed doors, she saw them struggle with political issues, and even personal problems too.

“I got to see their humanity,” Thompson explained. “Senators have bad days just like everyone else.”

She found it interesting that most of the elected officials opted to eat lunch out of public view, although not all of them.

“Senator Bernie Sanders gets his food in the regular cafeteria and will joke with the security guards,” Thompson said.

Thompson had only one disheartening encounter during her time on the Hill, but to say it was a big one would be to significantly underestimate the experience. At all levels of government, she saw a rudimentary comprehension of basic Native American issues, not to mention complex ones.

“For the most part, people in Washington DC know very little about what is happening in Indian Country,” she said. “I think this speaks to a need for more Native Americans to run for political office or to participate in politics in some way.”

Thompson thinks political leadership is a natural fit for many Native Americans, whose lives are currently linked in part to government policymaking. Whether it's cuts to federal funding for Tribal law enforcement or legislation related to the future of the Klamath River,

policy decisions made in Washington DC impact every Yurok citizen.

“As Indians, we are born political,” she said. “Politics are attached to so many things that are important to us, such as the protection of our environment, as well as the preservation of our ceremonial sites and our inherent fishing rights.”

Based on the quality of education she received in the classroom and from working in the senator’s office, Thompson encourages Yurok students to sign up for the Native American Leadership Program, which comes with a great scholarship that covers tuition, room and board and airfare costs.

“I believe that Yurok students would benefit from this program because it provides a broad, real-world understanding of politics,” she said.

The program gave Thompson the chance to meet with notable staff from Politico, MSNBC, Democratic National Committee, Emily’s List, American Rivers, Oregon Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden, California Senator Diane Feinstein, Senator Kamala Harris’ staff, and California Congressman Jared Huffman to name a few. In addition to a trip to Palm Springs to receive an award from and meet with Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indian’s leadership, during their annual 5k event, she toured the white house, multiple Smithsonian museums and the U.S. Forestry Service building.

“The connections I made while in DC will hopefully benefit me for many years to come. I learned more than I could have even imagined from these people that I would usually have no access to. Most were very excited to show me their projects and tell me about how these different departments actually work,” Thompson said.

In the future, the engineering student would like to work for a government entity, building environmentally conscious, public infrastructure for the benefit of her community. The knowledge Thompson gathered Washington will serve her when she starts a professional career.

“I learned how projects are moved through the legislative process and all that goes into it,” she said.

After the program, Thompson decided to study abroad through Semester at Sea to continue taking political science classes on a converted cruise ship circling the world. She returned this month after visiting Germany, Ghana, South Africa, Mauritius, India, Myanmar, Vietnam, China, and Japan. Due to the foreign policy and government classes she took abroad, Thompson will now receive a Political Science minor in addition to the Civil Engineering Major she is pursuing.

“I hope that I can bring what I learned about the political system in Washington D.C. back to the Tribe, so we as a community can navigate this complex system with more ease. So that our rights and future as a beautiful sovereign nation are better preserved and advocated for. That is my hope,” Thompson stated.

The Richard M. Milanovich Fellowship is a part of the Native American Leadership Program, which began in 2015 as a partnership between the George Washington University and the Agua Caliente

Band of Cahuilla Indian. Its primary objective is to prepare the next generation of leaders in Indian County.

The program is offered to Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students who want to spend a semester immersed in Washington politics. It is open to undergraduate and graduate students, including those who have completed their undergraduate degree but have not yet enrolled in a graduate program. Students from all tribes and from every part of the United States are welcome to apply. The scholarship covers the following:

Tuition and fees for the two core classes, plus an optional third course (up to 9 credit hours total)

Housing in a George Washington University dormitory

A stipend for books and living expenses, paid in two installments

Airfare to and from Washington, D.C. (one round-trip ticket)

The Milanovich Fellowship has California Native American preference.

To apply, please visit <https://semesterinwashington.gwu.edu/apply>.

The next session is Summer 2019 which deadline is March 1, 2019 & the program is June 3 - July 26

For more information, go to <https://semesterinwashington.gwu.edu/about-napl>

YUROK CDFI

**WE WILL BE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR
MICROLOANS STARTING JANUARY 2, 2019**

- Personal loans
- Debt consolidation
- Unexpected medical bills

The Yurok Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) is a program offered by Yurok Alliance for Northern California Housing (YANCH), a non-profit organization that is striving to promote economic and financial assistance to the Yurok Community. If you are interested in applying for a microloan, please contact us!

PHONE:
(707)482-0657

EMAIL:
sbarbour@yuroktribe.nsn.us

YANCH/YEDC office:
144 Klamath Blvd., Klamath, CA

Council Rep. leads church renovation

North District Rep. Edward "Horse" Aubrey, volunteers fix Wautec church parsonage

When the Wautec community asked for help with replacing a failing roof on the Wautec Pentecostal Church's parsonage, North District Representative Edward "Horse" Aubrey made it his personal mission to address the issue.

Tribal Council Representative Aubrey, a retired contractor with roots in the Wautec area that reach back uncountable generations, volunteered his time and expertise to put a new roof on the church rectory, as well as make additional structural improvements on the important community facility.

"We are so thankful to Mr. Aubrey. We thought we would never find someone to help," said Debra Myers, a parishioner at the church.

North District Rep. Aubrey's family descends from the villages of Pecwan and Notchko, both of which are in close proximity to Wautec. His close connection to the area is one of the reasons why he felt so strongly about renovating the much needed community center. He also sees an urgent need to improve the quality of life for those who live in what is the most isolated part of the Yurok Reservation.

"This community is basically home for me," Aubrey said. "I want to do everything I can to fix the infrastructure down here for the people."

The finished project went far beyond simply reestablishing the structural integrity of the parsonage. Tribal Council Rep. Aubrey, with

intermittent assistance from local community members, installed a custom, friendship-themed Yurok basket design on top of the building. This permanent reminder of the Tribe's rich culture and heritage looks amazing.



(left) Yurok Tribal Council Rep. Edward "Horse" Aubrey, Calvin "Little Horse" Aubrey, Debra Myers and Richard Myers Sr stand in front of the church.



Yurok Tribal Council Rep. Edward "Horse" Aubrey installed a friendship-themed, traditional basket design on the new roof.

Prior to the renovation, the decades-old building was in a really poor condition. After taking off the deteriorating roof, it quickly became clear that the damage extended deep into the facility. The extent of the degradation was such that it would take significantly more work and time than initially expected.

The complex remodel required Tribal Council Representative Aubrey to live at the vacant Wautec Fire House for several work weeks. He slept on a mattress in the Fire House bay, which does not have climate control and is frequented by small mammals as well as birds. Calvin "Little Horse" Aubrey, Councilman Aubrey's teenaged son, often stayed with him and helped with the installation of the new roof.

Wautec is more than one hundred miles away from the nearest building supply store, a circumstance that prolonged the project's completion date. All of the lumber and roofing materials had to be transported from the coast. The one-lane road down to Wautec is technically a state highway, but highway speeds are not feasible because of the thoroughfare's many tight turns. ✧

Yurok student values school, cultural learning

Jasmine Eleck is super-achieving student and Yurok language learner

Jasmine Eleck is an extraordinary student, an excellent Yurok language learner and the President of the Native American Club at Eureka High School.

"Jasmine is excited about excelling in the classroom and living her culture, which makes her a model student for her peers," said James Gensaw, a Yurok Education Department High School Counselor and Yurok language teacher. "The immense amount of effort that she puts into preserving our traditions and succeeding in school is really impressive."

Eleck, a Yurok citizen and highly driven junior, maintains a 4.2 GPA. She aspires to retain this stellar record through the remainder of secondary school and beyond because she knows that it will one day translate to numerous, satisfying college and career options.

"What motivates me is wanting to have as many opportunities as I can in the future," Eleck said. "I also want to set a good example for my younger brother and sisters. I want to set the bar high for them." Jasmine assigns to her parents much of the credit for her stellar scholastic skills. Her father and mother, Artie and Jessica Eleck, are deeply engaged in their daughter's development as a student, as a human being and traditional culture bearer.

"My parents have always been there and supported me no matter what I wanted to do. They take me to school functions, like school concerts and out-of-school activities. They just want the best for me. They've been helping me with school ever since I can remember," Eleck said.

Eleck views her academic and cultural pursuits as equally indispensable. That is why she sought the Native American Club's top position, a role that offers an ideal platform to promote indigenous lifeways.

"I want to make others aware that we are still alive and we're thriving," Eleck said.

The cultural practitioner is enrolled in the Yurok language class at Eureka High School, which is taught by veteran instructor, James Gensaw.

"It's important to me because I don't want the culture to die. I also want to teach the language to my children when I get older," Eleck said. "Eventually, we are going to have a lot more fluent speakers." Eleck looks forward to participating in the language class every day and particularly appreciates the Mr. Gensaw's engaging approach to teaching.

"My Yurok language class is one of my favorites. James (Gensaw) does an amazing job. He tells us stories, sings us songs and teaches us about every aspect of the culture," she said.

Science and history are also courses that captivate Eleck. She takes great pleasure from obtaining knowledge about major historic events and she is fascinated with learning about the biological world.

"Another one of my favorite subjects is history because I like to learn about what happened in the past and what we did wrong. History can inform us about how to prevent injustices from occurring in the future," she said. "I also enjoy science because I like to know why things work and how they work."

In addition to school and presiding over the Native American Club, the gifted Yurok teen is involved in the Eureka High School Players. She is the theatrical group's stage manager.

"I make sure things run smoothly, just like a manager at a regular job," Eleck

explained.

Having maintained an exceptional GPA over many years, Eleck is in an excellent position to provide real-world advice to younger students.

"Do your homework on time, study and don't procrastinate. Stay on top of things and make a schedule. These habits have helped me throughout my education," she said.

After high school, Eleck has solid plans to continue her schooling at a university, but she understandably has not yet made up her mind about what type of degree she is going to pursue. One thing is for certain, the future is bright for this hardworking individual.

"I'm thinking about studying law or history because those things both interest me," Eleck concluded. ✨



Jasmine Eleck is an all-around stellar student. Eleck views her academic and cultural pursuits as equally indispensable.

Yurok culture bearer becomes judge

William Bowers is a ceremonial leader, salmon fisher and community supporter

On Monday, December 10, William D. Bowers was sworn in as the Yurok Tribal Court's newest, associate judge.

"I pursued this position because I am a firm believer in our culturally based system of justice and want to use my skillset to best serve my people," said Judge Bowers, who is a Yurok citizen. "As a judge, I promise to be honest and fair, while keeping in mind our cultural and traditional beliefs."

Bowers applied for the judgeship after working with youth and families in the State of Oregon for 30 years, first as a caseworker and then as parole and probation officer. He also worked as one of the first Indian Child Welfare Act advocates when the pivotal program was first initiated in the Beaver State.

"We could not be happier to have William Bowers join the Tribal Court in this new role," said Abby Abinanti, the Chief Justice of the Yurok Tribal Court. "With his remarkable career in public service and significant cultural background, I have no doubt that he will do a great job."

In addition to Bowers' lengthy professional experience, he brings to the judge's bench a substantial understanding of the Tribe's culture. As a member of a ceremonial family, he has been intimately involved in putting on the Tribe's sacred dances for his entire life. Having spent decades talking to elders on the dance grounds afforded Bowers an extensive cultural education. This unique understanding of tribal traditions is a prerequisite for serving as a judge within the culturally centered Yurok Tribal Court.

"Every decision I make will be rooted in our traditional values, which are the foundation of our tribal community," Bowers said

The Requa Village descendant is also a lifelong, traditional salmon

fisher and has made real sacrifices to protect the Tribe's fishing rights. In the late 1970s, Bowers, the grandson of Emery and Geneva Mattz and son of Lavina Bowers, stood up against armed soldiers with his fellow Yurok citizens during the Salmon War. Under attack from state and federal governments, this multigenerational group of Yurok people, with only courage and tenacity on their side, successfully preserved the Tribe's right to harvest salmon as their ancestors had since time immemorial.

"I have been a gill net fisherman on the Klamath River since I was a young child. I was proud to fight for our fishing rights in the '70s, alongside my grandmother and mother," Bowers said. "While it was a very intense time for everyone involved, I learned the importance of standing up for what is right and would do it again in a heartbeat."

Contributing to the betterment of his community, whether it's on the dance grounds or in daily life, is something Bowers holds in high regard. Previously, he has volunteered to teach youth sports, including a 14-year run as a high school wrestling coach and has led multiple 4H groups.

"Being active in the community is an important part of who I am and it is what I love to do," he said.

On the same day that Bowers was sworn in as a judge, he also became a member of the Yurok Bar. He is very much looking forward to working alongside Yurok Chief Justice Abby Abinanti, a person who Bowers holds the utmost respect and is the leader of the team that created the internationally acclaimed Yurok Tribal Court.

"It is my honor and privilege to work with Judge Abby Abinanti. She is a tireless advocate for the Tribe and its members. I am humbled to be able to work with her at this time of my life," Bowers said. ✨

Tribal citizen obtains Yurok Bar license

In December, Yurok Chief Justice Abby Abinanti swore Yurok citizen Jessica Cedillo into the Yurok Bar.

Cedillo decided to take the Yurok Bar Exam because she saw it as the best way to contribute to the betterment of her community. The Klamath resident also wanted to position herself to give a voice to those unable to advocate on their own behalf.

"I love being able to help others stand up for themselves," Cedillo said. "Depending on the situation, court is nerve wracking and makes people uncomfortable. I have been able to stand up for those who

can't say what they want, or do not know how to address the court. I see their struggles, have heard their struggles, and I want to be able to help. These are not just cases, this is their life."

In the courtroom, Cedillo plans to use her bar license to practice Family Law.

"I want to be able to make a difference in families' lives," Cedillo said. "It has come naturally to me, mostly because I am a protective mother. It is not the easiest code to uphold, but when the end result improves the family's circumstances, that is what makes it worth it."

Cedillo, a mother, lifelong volunteer and leader on multiple boards, is very active in her community. In addition to being a member of the Yurok Bar and full-time Tribal employee, she is the Yurok Tribe Head Start Parent Committee Chair, Yurok Tribe Head Start Policy Council Vice Chair, Margaret Keating School Parent-Teacher Organization Chair

and a Yurok Tribe Election Board Member. She also volunteers in her children's classes on a weekly basis.

"I love my community and I want to do my part to make it better for everyone," concluded Cedillo. ✨

Tribe asks elders to update addresses

The Yurok Tribe is unable to send mail to those listed below. If your name is on the list, please submit your current address to the Enrollment Department. This can be done in one of the following ways: in-person, fax, e-mail, or mail. For additional information, please contact Enrollment Department Director Krystel Patapoff. She can be reached by phone at 707) 482-1350 Ext. 1320 or my email krystel@yuroktribe.nsn.us.

1. Marvin Le Roy Amos
2. Phyllis R. Barraza
3. Steven Lee Bean
4. Cedric Wellington Black
5. Melvin Anthony Caston
6. Joyetta Jane Childs
7. Lawrence Eugene Claggett
8. Jose Christopher Delgado, Sr.
9. Darrell Dwayne Eisele
10. Eugene Robert Gomes
11. Anita Ann Gritts
12. Peggy Sue Gensaw
13. Claire Rose Guyatt
14. Laureen Faye Johnson
15. Delmer Malin Keisner, Jr.
16. Frederick Allen Keisner
17. Charles Emerson Lewis
18. Oscar Lilly
19. Curry Price Lowe
20. Marie Louise Marye
21. Robert Frances Masten, Sr.
22. Nels Lavern Nelson, Jr.
23. Constance Elaine Norris
24. Barbara C. Prater
25. Deborah Ann Roberts
26. Paul Aaron Smith
27. Vickie Lynn Smith
28. Arlene Maree Stokes
29. George Adrain Swain, Jr.
30. Sharon Evangeline Thomas (Masten)
31. Vernon Raymond Trippo, Jr.

32. Dolores Estelle Ward
33. Connie Lynn Williams
34. Caroll Willis, Jr.
35. Delores Mae Wilson
36. Ina Mae Wilson
37. Terry Kenneth Wilson
38. Daniel Roy Woodhurst ✨

THANK YOU, FORESTRY !

In early January, I was getting low on firewood, and most of my remaining wood was wet. I phoned Forestry and spoke to Kim. She was very helpful, and told me she would organize things and I would be contacted.

A few days later, I received a call and my wood delivery was scheduled for the following Monday.

The truck arrived as agreed, and 2 kind, helpful and professional tribal members got out. With smiles on their faces, they rolled up their sleeves and began unloading. When the job was finished, I thanked them for their help to a tribal elder. All they would say was, "This is from the Tribe."

These 2 gentlemen were Jonny Scott and Vance Hutchinson. What great representatives for the Yurok Tribe. Thank you both ... and Kim.

Roberta Lindgren
(a grateful elder).

YTEP restores important riparian area

YTEP collaborates with NCIDC, Hoopa CCC and Del Norte Co. on clean up

The Yurok Tribe Environmental Program is leading a collaborative effort to clean up a massive illegal dump at a site in close proximity to Klamath Glenn.

To date, the nearly completed, cooperative endeavor has resulted in the removal of tens of thousands of pounds of unlawfully deposited debris from an approximately 5 acre property, which is known locally as “The Slab.” The name is a nod to the large concrete block that sits within the largely forested area.

“We are very close to finishing up with the full remediation of this site and we’ve done it mostly through the use of services that are of little or no cost to the Tribe,” said Koiya Tuttle, who is the Manager of YTEP’s Pollution Prevention Division and a Yurok citizen. “It is disheartening to have this unwanted, open dump situation so close to the community of Klamath Glenn.”

The Yurok Tribe Environmental Program brought together the following agencies to take on this monumental project: Northern California Indian Development Council, Hoopa Civilian Conservation Corps, Hambro, Recology, Del Norte Solid Waste Management Authority and the Del Norte County Community Development Department’s Code Enforcement Division.

“We’ve made a lot of progress toward cleaning up a mess that has persisted since this site was an RV park. I would like to thank reservation residents and all of the partnering organizations for their commitment to contributing to the betterment of this space on the reservation,” said Tuttle. “I would also like to acknowledge YTEP’s Merle Sanderson, who has done an exceptional job overseeing the crews from NCIDC and the Hoopa CCC.”

The massive amount of waste is primarily from illegal dumping of household trash and travel trailers, however, there is a lot of green waste left in the area surrounding The Slab, too. The once pristine site is populated with a smattering of cedars, along with profuse black cottonwoods, which tower over an understory of thimbleberry, native blackberry and several other types of flora.

The seclusion provided by the forest is what makes the area attractive to illegal dumpers.

“By clearing it up, hopefully we’re giving notice to people that it’s not okay to pollute our lands and make it easier to enforce our tribal ordinances,” Tuttle explained.

The property is highly used by both Tribal citizens and recreationers for ATV fun, fishing and summer activities.

The accumulation of household and other wastes at The Slab have the potential to enter the river, polluting the invaluable resource. This was recently witnessed when the river reached flood stage in 2016



Mike Murry, an employee with the Northern California Indian Development Council, removes trash from The Slab.

and immersed the illegal dump site. The numerous travel trailers were turned over and their contents spread throughout the willows and understory. The rest of the trash was washed away effecting untold habitats in the river.

Volunteers at YTEP’s annual Klamath River Clean Up have also been instrumental in clearing trash from The Slab. In 2017, the approximately 30,000 pounds of solid waste, metal and construction debris was removed from the dump site area, but much litter remained. In 2018, around 50,000 pounds were picked up from the site, marking the first big improvement. These weights don’t take into account the thousands of pounds of metal removed and disposed of at the scrap yard without being weighed.

“We really appreciate how much effort people put in at the Klamath Clean Up. It’s amazing how much the volunteers accomplish in what amounts to just a few hours of work,” Tuttle said.

Just last month, YTEP and NCIDC hauled away eight, broken down recreational vehicles and many trailer loads of trash from the area. The Hoopa CCC performed the difficult labor associated with the removal of Scotch broom, an invasive plant. The noxious weed is responsible for choking out the native fauna that wildlife depend on for survival.

“That helped us find a hidden trail to a flipped over Mitsubishi Eclipse, which we dismantled and hauled it away,” Tuttle said.

The Del Norte County Community Development Department's Code Enforcement Division is also a significant player in this effort to remediate this site. Specifically, Dominic Mello from the Del Norte County Code Enforcement Office drafted a successful CalRecycle grant, requesting funds to clean up the Klamath Glenn River Bar, which is within Del Norte County's boundaries.

"He included this site in the grant proposal as a way to collaborate with YTEP on working toward the mutual goal of cleaning up this persistent dump," Tuttle said. "We provide the labor and the county covers the disposal fees. I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Officer Mello for his support of the reservation community."

Hambro, Recology and the Del Norte Solid Waste Management Authority have paid the costs of the removal and disposal of materials collected during the Klamath River Cleanups..

"Together, they donate multiple 40 yard bins, and waive the hauling and tipping fees associated with the solid waste collected during the annual Klamath River Clean Up," Tuttle said.

While The Slab is an active illegal dumping zone, the aging rubbish that exists there makes it difficult for YTEP to enforce the Tribe's illegal dumping law.

"Enforcement is difficult to impossible due to the seclusion and relatively hidden nature of the Klamath Glenn River Bar. Starting with a clean slate will aid in the enforcement of our illegal dumping ordinance," Tuttle said.

On a recent sunny winter day, a crew comprised of YTEP and NCIDC staff took 3,300 pounds of junk from The Slab to the Del Norte County Transfer Station before lunchtime and were well into a second, equally large load by the early afternoon.

"It's astounding the amount of solid waste that we've pulled out of here since September. It's incredible," said Kori Ellien, a YTEP Environmental Protection Specialist and Hoopa Tribal citizen, as she pitched a plank with rusty nails into a trailer.




Also at The Slab, there are two continuous piles of yard and household waste stretching for about 75 yards on either side of a dirt road. YTEP and the team have to excavate the more environmentally

damaging materials from a mix of decomposing tree limbs and grass clippings, which slows the removal process. The crew has dug up objects like an old piano and a timeworn toilet from the long piles. It is illegal to dump yard clippings anywhere on the reservation, except for at authorized locations. The cooperative group is very close to returning the riparian forest to the flourishing, biodiverse habitat that it was before.

YTEP would like to request the community's assistance in safeguarding this site once it is completely cleaned up. If you witness someone illegally dumping there or anywhere else on the reservation, please call YTEP at (707) 482-1822.

"Even though it is on a non-Indian owned property, YTEP took on this project because we know that the community wants to see an end to this eyesore and deserves to live in a place free of blight. We could not have achieved this great accomplishment without the help of local residents and all of our outside partners. Thank you," concluded Tuttle. ✨

Yurok Obituaries

Ronald Leland Norris

1933 - 2017

Ronald Leland Norris passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 30, 2017, surrounded by family and the caring people at Kingston Memory Care.

He was born at the mouth of the Klamath River on the Yurok Reservation and was proud of his Yurok heritage. Ron was the youngest of seven boys and three girls. When he was small, his family dismantled their house and moved it to Crescent City, California by wagon, where they were the first inhabitants of the Elk Valley Rancheria.

Ron always worked. He delivered two newspapers to the entire town of Crescent City on his bike.

His senior year, he was quarterback for the Del Norte Warriors, but his true love was boxing, which was big on the coast in the '40s and '50s. He boxed all through high school and the two years he was in the U.S. Army in Germany. He coached boxing at the Grants Pass Boy's Club in the '70s.

He married Marjorie Wolfe of Rogue River in 1955. They moved to Grants Pass, Oregon, in 1961, where Ron worked at Southern Oregon Plywood until its closing.

He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings and grandson, Chase Jackson Davison.

His survivors include his wife of 62 years, Marjorie; daughters, Genine Davison, Colleen Ward & Lynette Armstrong; son, Brian Norris; and niece, Bonnie McClafin, who he considered his fourth daughter; four grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.



There will be a private family gathering this summer.



Saturday School/Credit Retrieval

Where: Boys and Girls Club Teen Center 168 Klamath Blvd.

What: Opportunity for students to get tutoring from a Del Norte Unified School District Teacher as well as JOM tutors all hours here will be counted towards the credit retrieval program

When: 10am-1pm on January 19th, February 2nd, February 16th, March 2nd, March 16th, March 30th, April 13th, April 27th, May 11th, May 25th, June 8th



Yurok Tribe

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2018 Employee of the Year

The Yurok staff selected Keith Ray as the 2018 Employee of the Year. Ray is a Yurok citizen who works for the Public Works Department. He did such a fantastic job this year that two of his peers nominated him for Employee of the Year.

Nomination #1 I see Keith constantly working within the main office, the outlying offices and at times, at the local parks and event area(s). Each time I have interacted with Keith, he always maintains a very positive attitude, and I have never heard him complain about anything. Also, Keith has a great sense of humor.

Nomination #2

We would like to nominate Keith Ray for Employee of the Year. Keith is always exceedingly helpful, regardless of how difficult or inconvenient a task may be, and he always gets it done with a spring in his step. He continuously illuminates our office with his Say-gep antics and when he brings his beautiful little girls in to visit with us while he works. It is truly amazing to see a man so devoted to being a father while remaining a hardworking and dedicated employee. Over the years, we have watched Keith grow as an individual and as an employee. He has overcome many personal obstacles and he has handled numerous demanding situations on the job. He continues to rise to meet all challenges he is faced with, and he does it all with a smile on his face and a joke in his heart.

We appreciate Keith's ability to always improve our quality of life in the workplace, whether he is just helping us in a time of need or making us laugh.

